

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings.

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
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18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Cancelled)
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Previously presented) A salad container comprising:
 - a removable lid; and
 - a container body comprising:
 - an open top,
 - a closed bottom,
 - an exterior surface,
 - an interior surface defining a cavity, and
 - at least one protrusion projecting inwardly into the cavity;
 - wherein the cavity is divided into an upper chamber and a lower chamber by a selective barrier extending across the cavity and the selective barrier is at least partially supported by the at least one protrusion, the selective barrier being sufficiently configured to selectively exclude entry of relatively large food items into the lower chamber and to provide passage through the barrier of relatively small food ingredients both into and out of the lower chamber so that the relatively large food items are stored away from the small food ingredients until just before consumption.

25. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 24, wherein the relatively large food items is salad and the relatively small food ingredients is salad dressing.
26. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 25, wherein the selective barrier has an upwardly angled extension cooperatively configured to wedge the barrier in frictional contact with the at least one protrusion.
27. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 26, wherein the at least one protrusion is formed as a seat.
28. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 26, wherein the seat has a front surface and the barrier is cooperatively configured to wedge the barrier to the front surface.
29. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 26, wherein the upwardly angled extension is further extended by a lateral flange.
30. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 26, wherein the lid has a liquid tight seal.
31. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 24, wherein the selective barrier has an upwardly angled extension cooperatively configured to wedge the barrier in frictional contact with the at least one protrusion.
32. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 31, wherein the at least one protrusion is formed as a seat.
33. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 31, wherein the seat has a front surface and the barrier is cooperatively configured to wedge the barrier to the front surface.
34. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 31, wherein the upwardly angled extension is further extended by a lateral flange.

35. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 31, wherein the lid has a liquid tight seal.

36. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 24, wherein just before consumption the relatively small food ingredients at least partially coat the relatively large food items.

37. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 24, wherein the relatively small food ingredients have a viscosity greater than water.

38. (Previously presented) A salad container comprising:

a removable lid; and

a container body comprising:

an open top,

a closed bottom,

an exterior surface,

an interior surface defining a cavity, and

at least one protrusion projecting inwardly into the cavity;

wherein the cavity is divided into an upper chamber and a lower chamber by a selective barrier means extending across the cavity and the selective barrier means is at least partially supported by the at least one protrusion, the selective barrier means being sufficiently configured to selectively exclude entry of relatively large food items into the lower chamber and to provide passage through the barrier of relatively small food ingredients both into and out of the lower chamber so that the relatively large food items are stored away from the small food ingredients until just before consumption,

wherein the selective barrier means has an upwardly angled extension cooperatively configured to wedge the selective barrier means in frictional contact with the at least one protrusion.

39. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 38, wherein the at least one protrusion is formed as a seat.

40. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 38, wherein the seat has a front surface and the selective barrier means is cooperatively configured to wedge the barrier to the front surface.

41. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 38, wherein the upwardly angled extension is further extended by a lateral flange.

42. (Previously presented) The salad container of claim 38, wherein the lid has a liquid tight seal.

43. (New) The salad container of claim 42, wherein the lid is constructed such that it can serve as the bottom of the container body when the salad container is flipped over into an inverted position and shaken.

44. (New) The salad container of claim 43, wherein the lid is further constructed to stably support the inverted container on a surface.

45. (New) The salad container of claim 39, wherein the lid is constructed such that it can serve as the bottom of the container body when the salad container is flipped over into an inverted position.

46. (New) The salad container of claim 45, wherein the lid is further constructed to stably support the inverted container on a surface.

47. (New) The salad container of claim 31, wherein the lid is constructed such that it can serve as the bottom of the container body when the salad container is flipped over into an inverted position and shaken.
48. (New) The salad container of claim 47, wherein the lid is further constructed to stably support the inverted container on a surface.
49. (New) The salad container of claim 27, wherein the lid is constructed such that it can serve as the bottom of the container body when the salad container is flipped over into an inverted position.
50. (New) The salad container of claim 49, wherein the lid is further constructed to stably support the inverted container on a surface.
51. (New) The salad container of claim 24, wherein the selective barrier is positively engaged by the container body such that it remains substantially in place.
52. (New) The salad container of claim 51, wherein the lid is constructed such that it can serve as the bottom of the container body when the salad container is flipped over into an inverted position and shaken.
53. (New) The salad container of claim 52, wherein the lid is further constructed to stably support the inverted container on a surface.